(c) The Government have not terminated the services of any of these employees so far. However, the following number of personnel have been discharged from service at their own request:—

| | Constables | Followers | Tradesmen | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| BSF | 213 | 7 | 1 | 221 |
| CRPF | 436 | 11 | 9 | 456 |
| ITBP | 25 | 5 | Nil | 30 |

**Demand for creation of Jharkhand State**

191. SHRI PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jharkhand Mukti Morcha has urged Government to create a separate Jharkhand State out of Bihar State in lieu of the support extended by Jharkhand Party to the National Front Government; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No communication to this effect has come to notice.

(b) Does not arise.

**Highest road accident rates in India**

192. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that road accidents rate in India is highest in the world, *viz.* 34.4 per ten thousand people compared to 13.7 in West Germany, 10 in Japan and 4.8 in Sweden; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to reduce this rate?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir. According to the World Road Statistics 1987, brought out by International Road Federation, Washington corelated to population as reported in the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics of United Nations, July, 1989 issue, the road accidents per ten thousand people in India and the other countries worked out as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| India (1986) | 2.8 |
| West Germany (1985) | 53.7 |
| Japan (1986) | 47.6 |
| Sweden (1986) | 19.9 |

However, accidents rate in India is comparatively high if number of accidents is co-related to the vehicle population.

(b) The Central Government, from time to time, has written to the State Governments to ensure strict control in the matter of issue of driving licences, grant of fitness certificates to vehicles etc. They have also been requested to set up driver training schools to impart training to the applicants of driving licences. The new Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides for driver training as a pre-requisite for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles. Provisions designed to promote road safety include fitment of safety devices in the vehicles, regulations regarding safe load-limits, maximum speed, establishing Truck Parking Complexes along Highways etc.

National Road Safety Council has also been set up to advise on formulation of road safety measures and their implementation through State agencies. The State Governments have also been asked to set up State Level Road Safety Councils.